

WHY STUDY SOCIAL STUDIES?

In order to be an informed citizen in the modern world, it is necessary to educate oneself about the past and how it has shaped the present. All of the history classes offered at RHHS strive to make connections between the events of the past and today so that students understand how their lives have been impacted by what has occurred long ago.

History, though, is not the only subject within the Social Studies discipline. Government, economics, psychology, law, and geography are just a few of the other categories of study. It is our goal to prepare students to be responsible citizens who are globally aware. Through the rigorous curriculum we have developed, it is our hope that students who pass through our classes will grow to be such individuals.



DEPARTMENT FACULTY

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SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT



Rocky Hill
High School

9TH GRADE

Freshmen enroll in **Western Civilizations I**, a full-year course that explores the emergence and growth of the Western world. Students study the development of early civilizations nearly 6,000 years ago through the Age of Exploration in the 1500s. Other topics studied include Ancient Greece & Rome, Medieval Europe, the Renaissance, and the Reformation.

In addition to the content covered, many skills are emphasized, including:

- Critical Thinking
- Reading
- Writing
- Research
- Public Speaking
- Geography
- Primary Source Analysis

Parents and students are advised to follow the recommendation of their 8th grade teacher when completing the course selection process. This course is offered at Honors, Academic, and General levels.



COURSE SEQUENCE

The typical student will take the following sequence of courses at RHHS:

10th Grade

- **Western Civilizations II** (Fall) - a continuation of European civilization through the beginning of the 20th century
- **Civics** (Spring) - the study of American government, with a focus on the foundations, traditions, and operations of the federal system. *This course is required for graduation.*

11th Grade

- **United States History** (Full Year) - a survey of American history, from its founding to the present day. *This course is required for graduation.*

12th Grade

Choose from Electives offered:

- **Law & Order in American Society*** (Fall)
- **20th Century American Culture & Society*** (Spring)
- **American & World Politics** (Full Year)
- **African American & Latino Studies*** (Full Year)
- **Current Issues** (Full Year)
- **Psychology*** (Fall/Spring)

**May also be taken in 11th grade.*

AP COURSES

The Social Studies Department offers an array of Advanced Placement courses for motivated 10th-12th graders:

European History - an in-depth study of modern European history from the emergence of the Modern World in the 15th century to the present day

United States History - an exploration of the nation's history through the study of political, economic, and social factors that helped this country grow

United States Government - a deeper look at the American systems of government and the foundations, rights, and responsibilities found within

Psychology - the examination of the systemic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of man

